

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed January 8, 2007, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration. To further the prosecution of this Application, Applicants submit the following remarks and have cancelled claims. The claims as now presented are believed to be in allowable condition.

Claims 1-12, 14-16 and 21-35 were pending in this Application. By this Amendment, claims 3, 7-9, and 30-35 have been canceled. Claim 1 has been amended to include the content of cancelled claim 32, claim 4 has been amended to include the content of cancelled claim 33, claim 5 has been amended to include the content of cancelled claim 34, and claim 14 has been amended to include the content of cancelled claim 35. Amendment and cancellation of the claims should in no way be construed as an acquiescence to any of the rejections presented in the Office Action and was done solely to expedite prosecution of the Application. Claim 36 has been added. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, 4-6, 10-16, 21-29, and 36 are now pending in this Application. Claims 1, 4, 5, 14, and 36 are independent claims.

Interview Summary

On February 22, 2007, the Applicants' Representative, Jeffrey J. Duquette conducted a telephonic Interview with Examiner Anatoly Vortman. We would like to thank Examiner Vortman for his time in the interview.

In the interview, Mr. Duquette and Examiner Vortman discussed an antecedent basis issue with respect to claim 32 where claim 32 recited "the conductive ground plane disposed along a flat surface of the substrate." The Examiner had suggested amending the limitation "a ground reference of the circuit board" in claim 1 in order to match the "conductive ground plane" limitation of claim 32. Mr. Duquette indicated that he would review the claims and consider Examiner Vortman's suggestions.

Allowed Claims

Claims 31-35 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim but were deemed allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 31 has been rewritten in independent form (i.e., claim 36) to include all of the limitations of the base claim (i.e., claim 1) and any intervening claims (i.e., claims 3 and 30). The phrase “the conductive ground plane disposed along a flat surface of the substrate” of claim 30 has been amended to recite “a conductive ground plane disposed along a flat surface of the substrate.” The amendment does not add new matter to the Application and does not raise new issues that would require further searching and consideration. Accordingly, new claim 36 is in allowable condition.

Claim 32 has been rewritten in independent form (e.g., claim 1 as amended) to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The phrase “the conductive ground plane disposed along a flat surface of the substrate” of claim 32 has been amended to recite “a conductive ground plane disposed along a flat surface of the substrate.” The amendment does not add new matter to the Application and does not raise new issues that would require further searching and consideration. Furthermore, because claims 2 and 29 depend from and further limit allowable independent claim 1, claims 2 and 29 are also in allowable condition.

Claim 33 has been rewritten in independent form (e.g., claim 4 as amended) to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The phrase “the conductive ground plane disposed along a flat surface of the substrate” of claim 33 has been amended to recite “a conductive ground plane disposed along a flat surface of the substrate.” The amendment does not add new matter to the Application and does not raise new issues that would

require further searching and consideration. Furthermore, because claims 27 and 28 depend from and further limit allowable independent claim 4, claims 27 and 28 are also in allowable condition.

Claim 34 has been rewritten in independent form (e.g., claim 5 as amended) to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The phrase “the conductive ground plane disposed along a flat surface of the substrate” of claim 34 has been amended to recite “a conductive ground plane disposed along a flat surface of the substrate.” The amendment does not add new matter to the Application and does not raise new issues that would require further searching and consideration. Furthermore, because claims 6, 10-12, 23, and 24 depend from and further limit allowable independent claim 5, claims 10-12, 23, and 24 are also in allowable condition.

Claim 35 has been rewritten in independent form (e.g., claim 14 as amended) to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The phrase “the conductive ground plane disposed along a flat surface of the substrate” of claim 35 has been amended to recite “a conductive ground plane disposed along a flat surface of the substrate.” The amendment does not add new matter to the Application and does not raise new issues that would require further searching and consideration. Furthermore, because claims 15, 16, 25, and 26 depend from and further limit allowable independent claim 35, claims 15, 16, 25, and 26 are also in allowable condition.

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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, this Application should be in condition for allowance. A Notice to this affect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, after this Amendment, that the Application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the Applicants' Representative at the number below.

The Applicants hereby petition for any extension of time which is required to maintain the pendency of this case. If there is a fee occasioned by this Amendment, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 50-3661.

If the enclosed papers or fees are considered incomplete, the Patent Office is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned collect at (508) 616-2900, in Westborough, Massachusetts.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeffrey J. Duquette', is written over a horizontal line.

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